TABLE II

Number and Horsepower of Irrigation Pumps as of March 1, 1950

Average capacity of pumps: 1948-49 = 36.22 H.P.
1949-50 = 36.40 H.P.

Liwas	Euphrates and canals		Tigris and tributaries		Diyala and tributaries		Shatt al Gharraf		Shatt al Arab		Total 1949-50		Total 1948-49	
	Number	H.P.	Number	H.P.	Number	H.P.	Number	H.P.	Number	H.P.	Number	H.P.	Number	H.P.
Mosul	—	—	74	2,394	—	—	—	—	—	—	74	2,394	71	2,209
Erbil	—	—	2	68	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	68	2	68
Suleimaniya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kirkuk	—	—	3	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	44	2	28
Diyala	—	—	54	2,518	68	3,277	—	—	—	—	122	5,795	115	5,386
Baghdad	139	4,453	1,084	33,475	92	3,852	—	—	—	—	1,315	41,780	1,313	41,849
Dulaim	265	7,904	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	265	7,904	268	7,974
Hilla	86	2,032	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	86	2,032	75	1,738
Kerbela	30	651	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	651	29	624
Diwaniya	570	22,610	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	570	22,610	477	18,705
Muntafiq	82	3,364	—	—	—	—	24	1,310	—	—	106	4,674	82	3,362
Kut	—	—	451	21,568	—	—	97	4,508	—	—	548	26,076	552	26,115
Amara	—	—	354	13,656	—	—	—	—	—	—	354	13,656	333	13,002
Basra	5	167	12	448	—	—	—	—	101	2,840	118	3,455	106	2,982
Total	1,177	41,181	2,034	74,171	160	7,129	121	5,818	101	2,840	3,593	131,139	3,425	124,042

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8:Campbell T-5 (no date) 1949 MH1 Iraq MH1

would know the difference.' They went on to point out large numbers of sheep dotted around the horizon and they explained that had there been a large number of camels with a few sheep, then bedouin would have been indicated. Instead there was a large number of sheep with a few camels, indicating Arabs. They had to go on to explain that by Arabs they meant the great landowning Shia tribes, who are in the main cultivators of rice, dates, barley and a variety of other crops, but they send out their sheep on long treks through the desert in charge of some of their families in search of grass.

Most of the Arab tribes are dwellers in houses or clean, cool huts made of reed matting, which allows for a constant current of air through the hut, and prevents the temperature from rising to that of an oven in the hot sun, like a house. Many of these stories were told in a large guest house or tent pitched amongst the houses, with a background of sound varying from that of the cooking of a meal of several roast sheep to the powerful thump, thump, thump, of the great pumps. These pumps deserve mention, since they are often a tribe's principal pride and source of wealth. At one place I was surprised to hear that a boy's name was Rustam, since this name is more common amongst Persians and Kurds than amongst Arabs, but it was explained to me that he was named after the pump, and I understood when I saw the name Rustom stamped on an iron plate on the great cylinder.

The Arab tribes have a great military history of which they are justly proud. It is long and somewhat complicated, and to give in full the history of a single tribe as told by the sheikhs would fill a book greater in size than this. I will, however, give a précis of the history of that great group of tribes which were known as the Muntafiq.

8:Campbell T-5 (no date) 1949 MH1 Iraq MH1

178 life in the tribes is changing year by year. The pumping
406 engines owned by every tribe send thousands of tons of
871 the brown waters of the Euphrates down the irrigation channels to make the land fertile and green. Education is spreading to the tribes, and an increasing number of tribesmen hold jobs of every sort in the railways, the port, and the oil companies. Many tribesmen from the Euphrates drove trucks on the great Aid to Russia route through Persia during the war. Others could be found serving the Allied war effort as far apart as Masira at the end of the Persian Gulf and Haifa.

With this development going on all around him, it is not surprising that the amusements of the tribesman are changing. Whereas before he had to amuse himself by listening to stories told by amateur but skilled storytellers, he can now pass the evening listening to a wireless set driven off the battery of his sheikh's or his sirkal's saloon car, or better still, he can jump a bus or lorry into the nearest village and watch an Egyptian, Indian, or American film. In this atmosphere it is not surprising that the stories are dying out, and now only a few of the older men know them. These stories fulfilled a need in the days in which the tribes were in constant conflict with the Turkish Government, and in which facilities for written Arabic literature did not exist. Now, in more prosperous times, they must die out. I would stress that the stories were never considered as belonging to any great school of Arabic literature—they were simple little things, either originated by the tribesmen themselves or adapted from some more ancient story, and their intention was merely to evoke a smile on an arduous march, or to help pass a cold desert night; and so they must be judged.

000 To those who want the real beauty of a precise language, I say that this can be found in written classical Arabic,

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242 being conducted this year with about nine different insecticides, but a more thorough program is needed.

The FAO is supplying a specialized cotton entomologist, and the Point Four Mission is supplying a general entomologist to help develop an effective program.

[656] The country has a law requiring that all cotton stalks must be destroyed, the debris burned, and the land ploughed by the first of January. In fact, the farmer is not given permission to plant cotton again unless he has complied with these regulations. Seed sterilization also is required. But the Director General himself admits the program has been ineffective. There are many host plants on which cotton insects can live, and the people do not understand the law or are not in a position to comply, especially where they are in the habit of saving the stalks for fuel.

One of the real difficulties is the growth habits of the present Acala varieties which are said to set 80 per cent of their bolls on what is called the second flush, after the end of August, when the insect population is highest. Efforts are being directed toward development of varieties that have a shorter maturing period, and early results with Coker Wilt have been encouraging.

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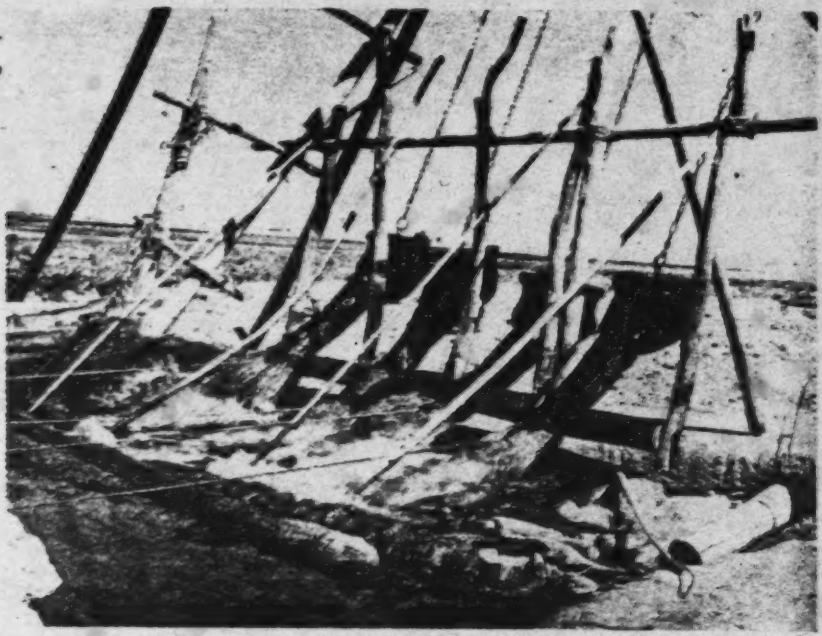

—Photo Courtesy of Technical Cooperation Administration

This irrigation system of a farm in southern Iraq dates back to Biblical times. Mules walk down an inclined track beside the well pulling the goatskin water scoops. The scoops, hauled to ground level by the mules, spill their contents into the irrigation ditch. Through the Point Four Program the United States is cooperating with the Government of Iraq in its extensive projects to modernize and improve irrigation and increase crop output.